

Connecticut Youth Suicide Prevention Initiative (CYSPI)
Meeting Minutes
ORC Macro Site Visit

April 27, 2007
United Way
Wethersfield, CT
10:30 a.m. – 12 noon

In Attendance: Allison Case, DMHAS; Andrea Duarte, DMHAS; Jean Haughey, Enfield Youth Services; Amy James, UCHC; Erika Kraselsky, Enfield Youth Services; Scott Newgass, SDE; Barbara Sheldon, CT BHP; Judy Stonger, CT Clearinghouse; Bill Turek, SDE; Faith Vos Winkel, OCA; Alicia Woodsly, NAMI

Guests: Jenny Duncan-Rojano, Hartford Public Schools; Dianne Harnad, DMHAS; Kathleen Jones, ORC Macro; Lisa McCarthy, SPRC; Aric Schichor, St. Francis Hospital; Janice Tkaczyk, SOS; Freddie Valentin, Quirk Middle School.

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1. Kathleen Jones delivered a presentation that provided an overview of national suicide data, the Surgeon General's Call to Action (1999), Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Act (2004) and purpose and components of the cross-site evaluation. Kathleen also briefly described initiatives in the four other states she oversees: Colorado, South Dakota, West Virginia and Alaska.

Kathleen Jones, MPH
Research Associate
kathleen.e.jones@orcmacro.com
(646) 695-8176

Amy James commented that Maine, who received funding in Cohort I, has developed a web of connectivity and wrap-around mental health services that Connecticut might learn from. Dr. Schichor has viewed and been impressed with work coming out of New Hampshire, also a member of Cohort I. NH has developed protocols for all sorts of gatekeepers and has made them available on-line.

2. Lisa McCarthy delivered a presentation that reiterated the pervasiveness of suicide and reviewed key aspects of the GLSMA and provided an overview of the goals, mission, vision, values and resources available through the Suicide Prevention Resource Center. Lisa also described the additional grantee states she is working with, including Kentucky, Louisiana, and Mississippi.

Lisa N. McCarthy, MPH
Prevention Specialist
lmmcarthy@edc.org
(617) 618-2467

The group discussed the idea of learning from New England neighbors and possibly assembling to collaborate periodically at regional conferences. Lisa will bring this idea back to her colleagues at SPRC. Dr. Schichor also raised the issue of perpetuating training and provision of repeated and/or booster trainings within Connecticut. Project Manager Andrea Duarte explained current grant opportunities and limitations.

Slide sets from both presentations will be distributed at the next subcommittee meeting. In addition, both Kathleen and Lisa are available to provide technical assistance directly to grant recipients and subcontractors/committees and provided contact information to all attendees. Andrea asked to please be cc'd on any correspondence.

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